

Beginner Gardening

For All Ages

A Four Part Series

By Pamela Hein

Growing with Rochester since 1929

www.rgfc.org



Rochester Garden &
Flower Club



What makes a Gardener?

- A person who tends & cultivates a garden as a pastime or for a living
- Winter Months: Read & Plan
- Never ending love of nature
- Rewards us with
 - Relaxation
 - Beauty

WHEN WOMEN SAY THEY ARE
"RUNNING ERRANDS"
THEY ARE ACTUALLY AT
THE GARDEN CENTER
SNIFFING FLOWERS AND
READING PLANT LABELS.



My Background



Lifelong Gardener

Moorhead State College
Brainerd Vocational College

Horticulture classes

Economic Development

Iowa Living Roadways & IDOT & Trails

Housing & Community

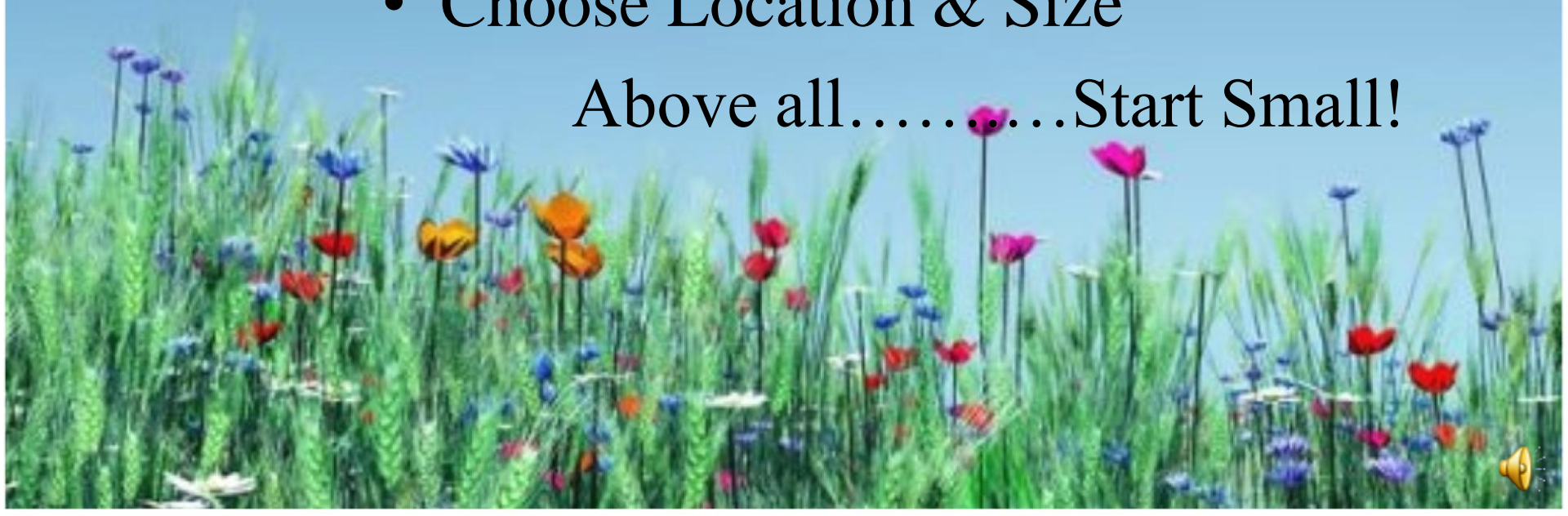
RGFC member over 11 years



Points to Ponder

- What Are Your Needs
- How much time
- Evaluate Your Yard
- Type of Garden
- Choose Location & Size

Above all.....Start Small!



Ask Yourself ?'s

- Vegetables
- Flowers.....or Both
- Herbs
- Provides enjoyment
- Do You Work Full-time/Part-time
- Physical Restraints
- Your Goal



Picking a Great Location

“Vegetables”

- Walk Your Yard.....
 - Vegetable need 6 hrs of direct sunlight
 - Moist, well-drained soil
 - Easily Accessible
 - Close to water hydrant/faucets
 - Seeds or Plants
 - always high quality
 - Avoid Areas:
 - windy – low ground – high traffic area

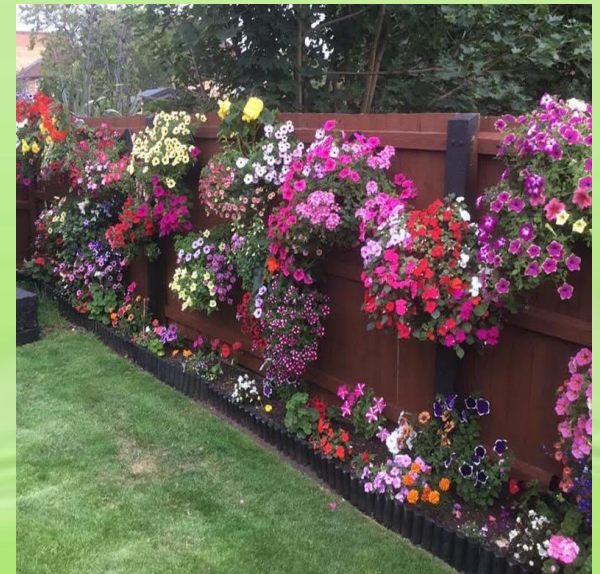


“Flowers”

Perennial / Annual

- Sun or Shade
- Accessibility to Water
- Moist, well drained....Dry
- View from
 - street / home / patio
- In garden/containers
- Site Options
 - endless





Types of Gardens

- Traditional
- Raised
- Square
- Vertical
- Container
- Patio
- And more.....

Traditional

- Full Sun (6-8hrs)
- Avoid Trees/Shrubs
 - Outside Drip Line
- Rows North to South
- Water Source
 - Drip/Soaker/Spray
- Succession Planting
- Use Vertical for vine vegetables



Coffee.
Garden.
Coffee.
Does a
good morning
need anything else?

Betsy Canas Garmon

**Sunflowers follow the sun...
But did you know**

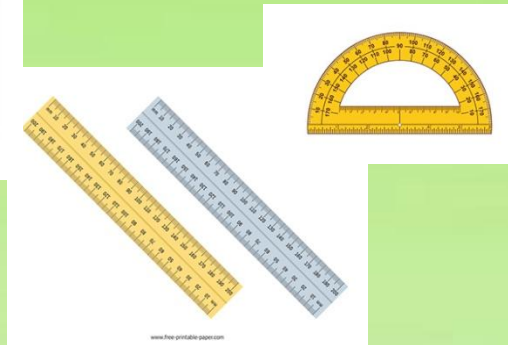
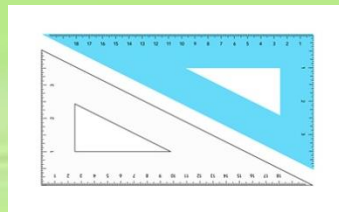
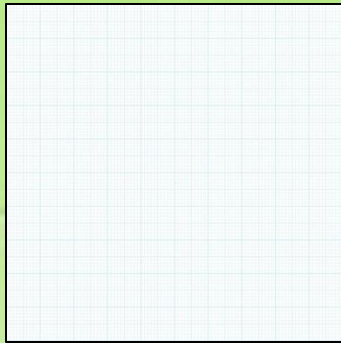
**When it is cloudy and
gray, they face each
other and share their
ENERGY.
Imagine if Humans
could do this too.**



Unkempt Garden – Common Style

Design Tools

- Use Grid Paper and Tools – 1 square equal 1 foot:
- <https://free-printable-paper.com/printable-1-inch-grid-paper/>



- Plan Your Garden With Google Maps

m.youtube.com/watch?v=YYkYkonjqos

- Use a Sketch Pad and Free Draw:
 - Tape measure, pencil, note paper
 - Measure perimeter of property, house, & center of trees to property line

Raised Beds

- Don't walk on soil
- 6 – 8 hours of sun
- Plant earlier
- (?) grass removal
- Irrigation watering
- Mulch after planting
- Barrier for Weeds & Roots
- Costs – soil, wood, screws, chicken wire, weed barrier
- Cover when not gardening
- Works for vertical and square gardening



4 x 4 x 8 h

“Great Design for Beginners”

Layout Suggestions

- Not more than 4' wide
- Allow 3' alleyway
- 6 – 12" high (Root Veggies)
- Any length desired
- Arranged on ground, tables, legs, etc.
- Materials: pine, redwood, cedar (untreated)
- Avoid: metal, blocks, treated wood, creosote
- Purchase or build





Square Gardening

- Build a 4x4x12" high Raised Bed
- Create 16 (1' x 1' squares)
 - of lattice or cording
- Seed or Plant
- Soilless or Amended Soil
- Less time weeding
- More time watering
- 6 – 8 hours of sun



Note:
Drip Irrigation System
Seeds or Transplants





Vertical

- Vine vegetables
- Stand alone
- Insert in garden
- Variety of materials
- Harvest easily
- Clean plants
- More garden space



BE CREATIVE WITH MATERIALS



Container Gardening

- Drainage Holes
- Watering Tray (preferably w rollers)
- 6 hours of sun minimum
- Amended Soil
- Fertilize more often
- Flowers or Vegetables
 - Compact vegetables
- Perfect for Patio or Deck







Patio / Deck



Beginner Gardening – Series 1

Raised/Square Resource:

Sharon Pharis – s.pharis3@gmail.com

Susan Butler – susanbutler7@gmail.com

Handouts:

- * **How to Start a Vegetable Garden**
- * **Sample Plans**
- * **Choosing a Location**
- * **Design with Google Maps**

Go to www.rgfc.org and download or print off



Gardening for all Ages

Series Schedule



Series 2: Soil Prep and Weed Control

Monday, February 8th at 6:30 pm

By Skip Hein

Series 3: Plant Selection and Care

Monday, March 15th at 6:30 pm

Series 4: Preserving Your Harvest

Monday, April 12th at 6:30 pm

Invite a Friend to Signup! rgfc@rgfc.org